



Department of Justice

**United States Attorney David L. Huber
Western District of Kentucky**

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CONTACT: SANDY FOCKEN
PHONE: (502) 582-5911
FAX: (502) 582-5097

BARDSTOWN WOMAN PLEADS GUILTY TO \$601,268 FRAUD AT LOCAL FINANCE COMPANY

-Branch manager took out 407 fraudulent loans to receive \$66,000 in bonuses

LOUISVILLE, KY - **Ruth Rogers**, age 52, of Bardstown, Kentucky, in Nelson County, pled guilty to five counts of wire fraud in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1343, U.S. Attorney David L. Huber of the Western District of Kentucky announced today.

Rogers admitted that from January 1, 2005, until December 31, 2006, while employed as a branch manager of World Finance Corp. in Bardstown, Kentucky, she caused 407 fraudulent loans, totaling \$601,268, to be issued and funded by World Finance Corp. Of this amount, she reapplied approximately \$379,741 of the fraudulent loans to pay off older fraudulent loans. The difference, \$221,526, was never reapplied to other loans and stolen by Rogers. She admitted that she also caused the fraudulent loans to be issued in order to cause the company to pay her bonuses. During this period she was issued \$66,092 in bonuses.

More particularly, Rogers caused approximately 407 fraudulent loans, or more precisely lines of credit, to be issued by World Finance Corp. in names and social security numbers of individuals that did not exist. For each of the 407 fraudulent loans, Rogers would create an account for the alleged borrower and then issue a loan in his or her name. She would often apply proceeds from more recent fraudulent loans to cover the monthly payments of older loans. When she was finally caught following an audit by World Finance Corporation, she caused a loss of \$221,526 and

fraudulently caused it to pay her bonuses totaling \$66,092. Her bonuses were directly tied to the number of loans that were in good standing.

With regard to each of the 407 fraudulent loans, she sent via interstate wire communications an internet communication from her office in Bardstown, Kentucky, to the server of World Finance Corp., located in Greenville, South Carolina. Rogers admitted that she knew that these loans were fraudulent and knew that she was not entitled to the bonuses.

The maximum potential penalties are 100 years imprisonment, a \$2,500,000 fine, and supervised release for a period of 3 years.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Bryan Calhoun, and it was investigated by the United States Secret Service.

The plea was entered before Dave Whalin, Magistrate Judge, United States District Court, Louisville, Kentucky.

Rogers is scheduled to be sentenced before Chief Judge John G. Heyburn, II on December 11, 2007, at 11:30 a.m., in Louisville, Kentucky.

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